

12 Aug 71

Hoover has hair hangup; mane the bane of agents

WASHINGTON — J. Edgar Hoover, the 76-year-old FBI chief, has a hangup about hair. He's inclined to measure an employe's fidelity by the length of his locks.

Last June, for instance, the old curmudgeon saw a picture in The Washing on

Jack Anderson

Post of three FBI agents hustling an airline hijacker, Glen E. Riggs, into the U.S. magistrate's court in Alexandria, Va. One of the agents, John F. Mullen, had sideburns extending almost to the bottom of his ear.

This violated Hoover's taste in sideburns. In a huff, he censured Mullen for letting his sideburns grow too long and banished him to Indianapolis.

Now Hoover has ordered an FBI-wide inspection, division by division, for subversive sideburns and hippy hairdos. Anyone whose hair style doesn't suit the old man will lose 10 days' pay.

Some FBI agents have complained privately that Hoover's tonsorial tastes make it difficult for them to infiltrate anti-government demonstrations. The demonstrators, invariably, wear their hair long and straggly.

Narcotics agents, who carefully cultivate the hippy look and lingo, have been far more successful at infiltration. They are contemptuous, indeed, of the FBI. As one narcotics agent put it to us, "An FBI man's idea of infiltrating a hippy group is taking off his tie."

SPILLED OIL

A huge Texas company that does a big business with the oil companies has been hired by the Environmental Protection Agency to investigate the disastrous spills and fires caused by the

companies.
The company is
\$827 million-a-year
directors un
oily pol
sid